

In the Claims:

Claims 1-20: (cancelled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): A method of administering folic acid to a subject for whom an oral contraceptive is indicated for preventing pregnancy, which comprises administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition, wherein

the pharmaceutical composition comprises an oral contraceptive for preventing pregnancy in a subject, and folic acid in an amount sufficient to reduce the risk of neural tube defects cervical dysplasia or cervical carcinoma in the subject, wherein (i) subjects for whom the oral contraceptive is indicated are afflicted with neural tube defects cervical dysplasia or cervical carcinoma at a higher-than-normal incidence, (ii) said neural tube defects cervical dysplasia or cervical carcinoma results from folic acid deficiency, and (iii) the risk of neural tube defects cervical dysplasia or cervical carcinoma in the subject is reduced by folic acid administration.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method of claim 21, wherein the composition comprises from about 25 µg to about 1 g of folic acid.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein the composition comprises about 400 µg of folic acid.

Claim 24 (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the neural tube defects are selected from the group consisting of spina bifida and anecephaly.